



HITS AT
POLITICS.

A BOOK OF

CARTOONS

BY

W. A. R.
Rogers.

RR

R.H.RUSSELL NEW YORK

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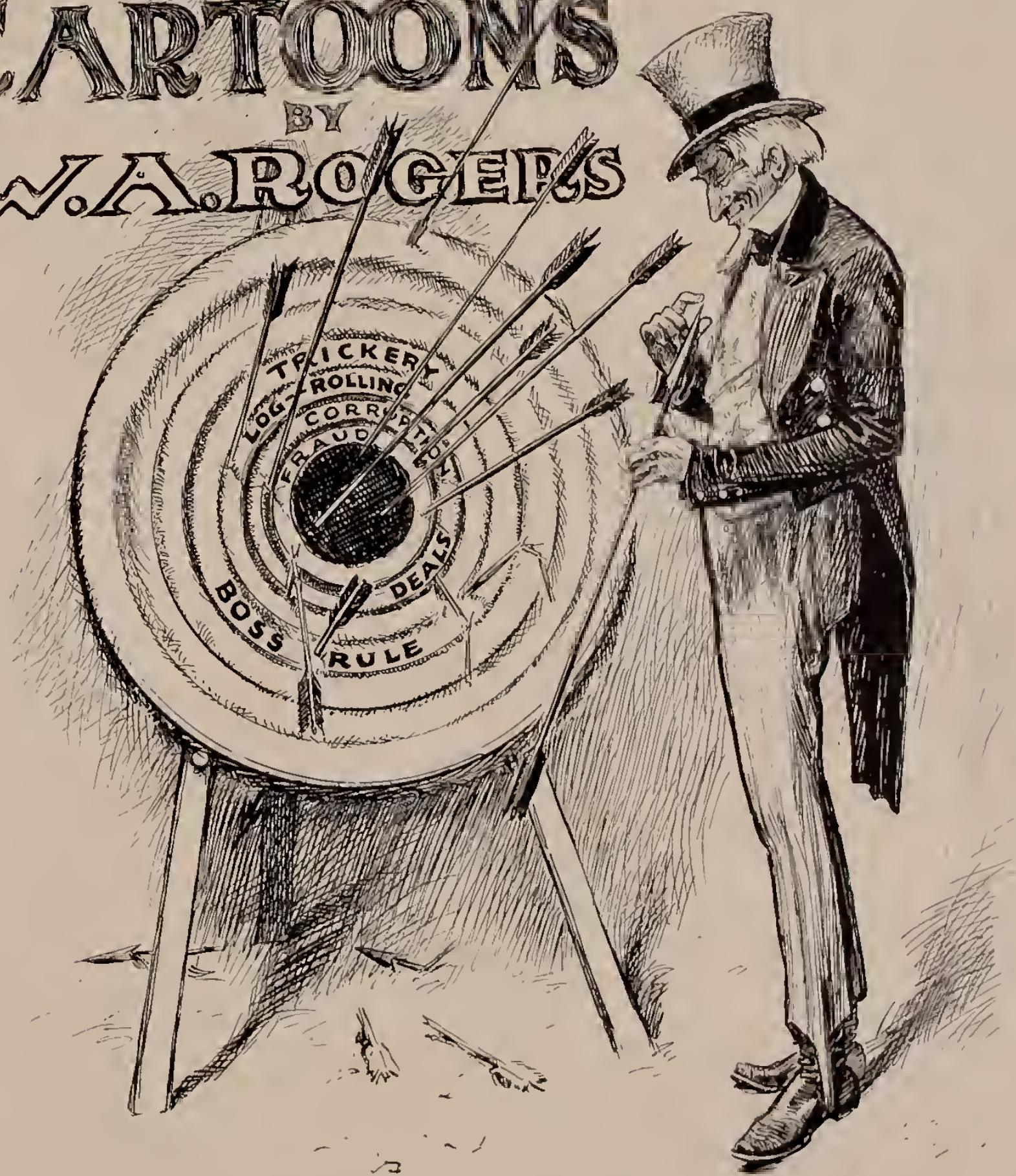
HITS AT POLITICS.





"THE OPEN DOOR!"

HITS
AT
A SERIES OF POLITICS
CARTOONS
BY
W.A. ROGERS



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.. 1899 ..

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P R E F A C E

.. TO ..

“HITS AT POLITICS.”



The cartoon, as everybody knows, is not so valuable for what it presents as for what it suggests; and in gathering together the pictures here displayed, the artist's idea has been to make a book which would suggest a good deal of unwritten contemporaneous history.

This book has been named “Hits at Politics”; for the artist is well aware that what to a reader of one political complexion appears a bull's-eye, will seem to another quite beside the mark.

It has been the endeavor to strike cleanly and clearly, but should any gentleman who has been hit feel aggrieved, he may console himself with this reflection: That only he who formed a conspicuous mark has been aimed at.

It is a cause of regret to the cartoonist that, in hitting at any particular act of an eminent public man, he is unable at the same time to pat him on the back for some of his good qualities.

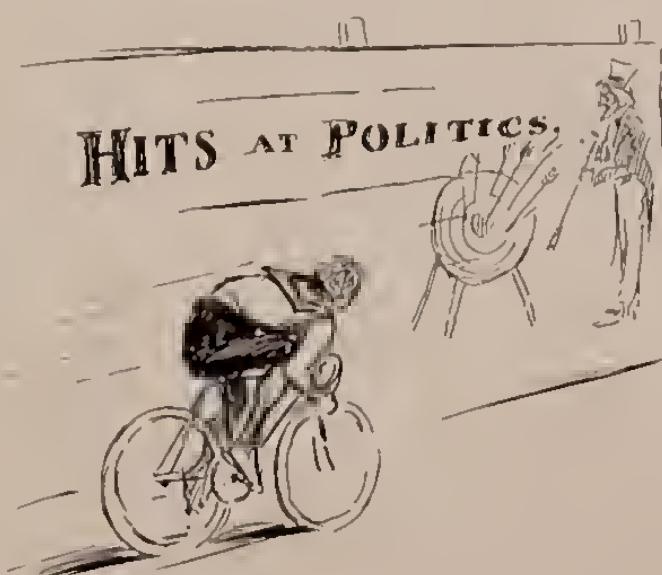
A picture, however, concerns itself with only one side of an object, and a cartoon must be taken with reference to the state of affairs at the time it was made.

The cartoons in this book originally appeared in *Harper's Weekly*, and, in gathering them together, many little pictorial comments suggested themselves to the artist. These little thumbnail sketches, to the number of over one hundred, have been included in the book.

A short note, giving the situation from which it arose, accompanies each cartoon.

The late Josh Billings spoke for this busy age when he said “he didn't care how much a man said so long as he said it in a few words.” The cartoon, which tells its story without any words, so that even he who scoreches may read, would seem to reach the ideal of this philosophy.

W. A. ROGERS.





Dirt had reigned supreme in New York for many years. Clean streets seemed as far off as the Millennium. 1894.





KING GARBAGE REIGNS.



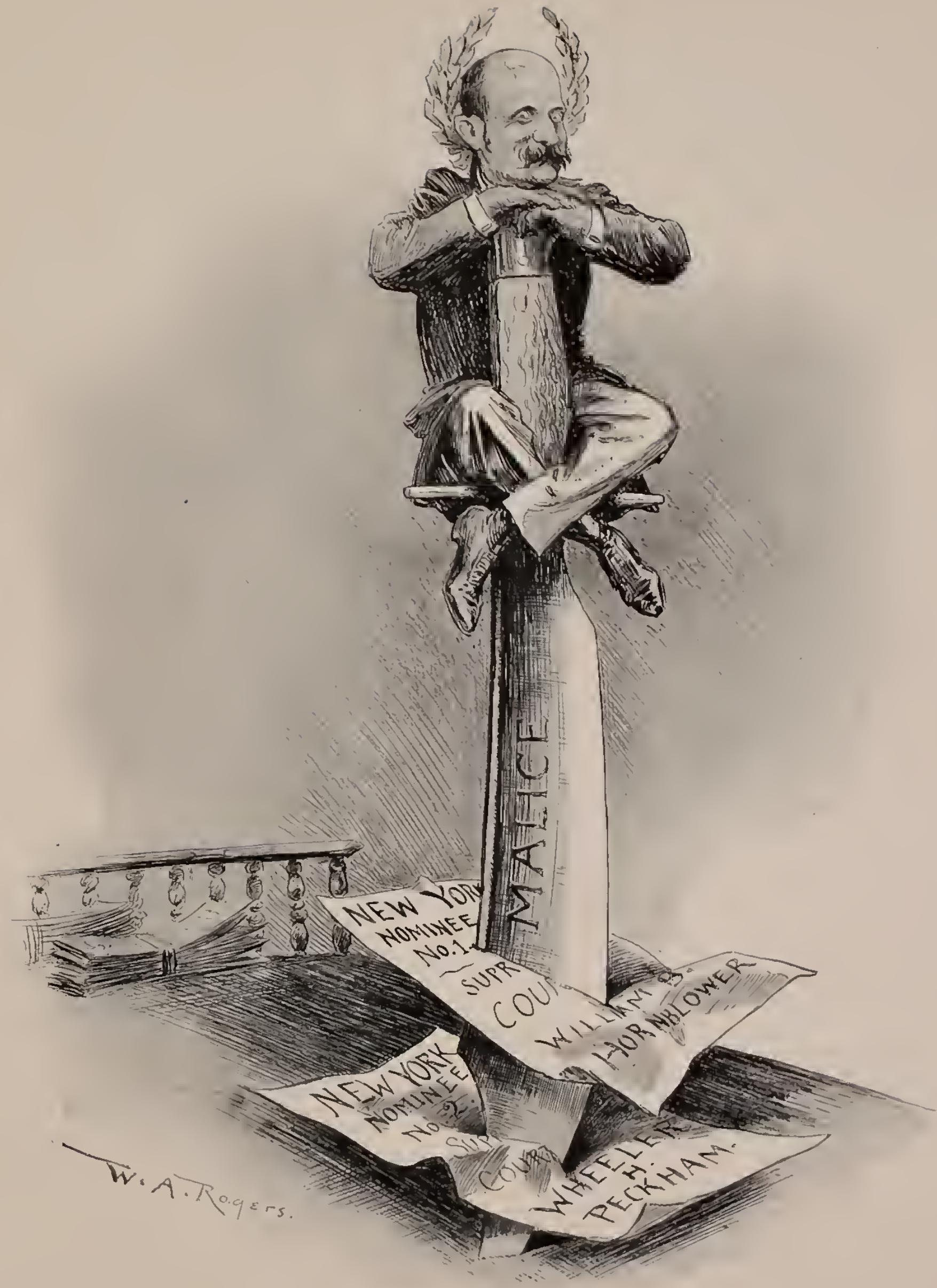
MR. HILL, as a New York Senator, had to stand the odium of comparison
with many illustrious names. 1894.



FROM STATESMANSHIP TO SPIDERCRAFT.

MR. HILL had twice strained the "Courtesy of the Senate" to defeat MR. CLEVELAND'S
nominations of Justices to the Supreme Court. 1894.





SENATORIAL COURTESIES—TRIUMPH.



The Democratic leaders filled the people with disgust by their
vacillation on the Tariff question. 1894.



THE DESTINATION OF THE DEMOCRACY.



It was not the first time an "Army" had appeared at the Capitol steps demanding that it be fed. 1894.





THE ORIGINAL "COXEY ARMY."

It was inferred that the little group of Democrats, who were doing the enemy's work, were not doing it for the enemy's amusement. 1894.

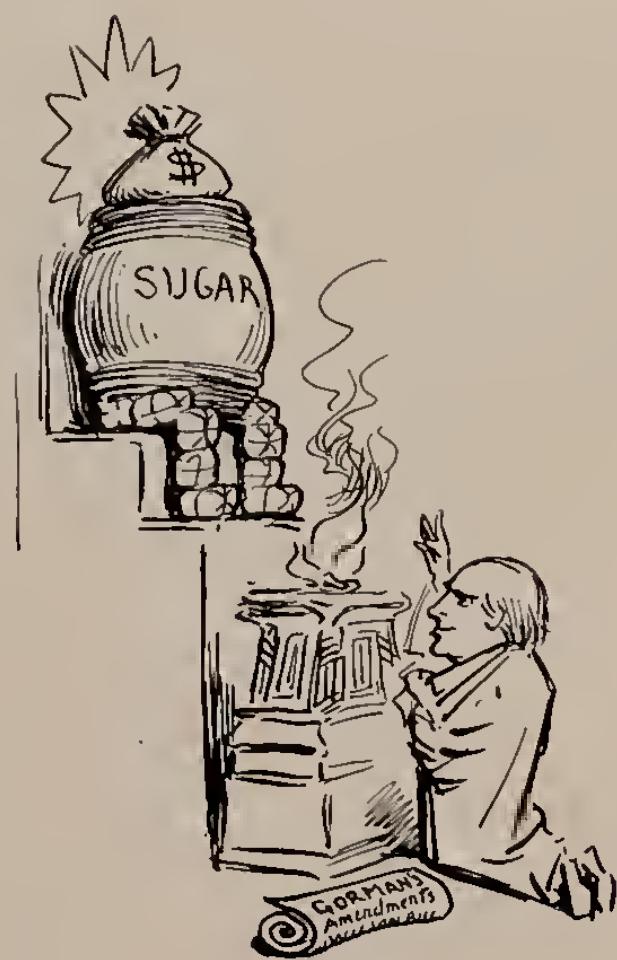




WATERING THE ELEPHANT—WHAT DO THE BOYS EXPECT?



Many prominent Democrats in Congress were suspected by the High-priests of Tariff
Reform of worshipping strange gods. 1894.





PROPITIATING THE GODS.

SENATOR QUAY seemed to think it no detriment to the dignity of a United States Senator to speculate in stocks affected by legislation. 1894.





SENATOR QUAY'S POSITION ON THE SUGAR QUESTION,
AS DEFINED BY HIMSELF.

The vigorous letter of WASHINGTON to GENERAL KNOX, written December 26th, 1786, was
directly apropos of the situation in July, 1894.





A WARNING FROM THE PAST.

"THERE ARE COMBUSTIBLES IN EVERY STATE which a spark might set fire to . . . We ought not, therefore, to sleep nor to slumber. Vigilance in watching and vigor in acting is become, in my opinion, indispensably necessary."—Extract from a Letter of George Washington to General Henry Knox, December 26, 1786.



Freight traffic between the east and west was completely blocked at
Chicago by riotous strikers. 1894.



KING DEBS.



The incendiary mob at Chicago received encouragement from the governors
of at least four States. 1894.



THE VANGUARD OF ANARCHY.

It was very evident that MR. GORMAN had gained complete control of the Democratic
attempt at a tariff reform bill. 1894.





AT THE CRACK OF GORMAN'S WHIP.



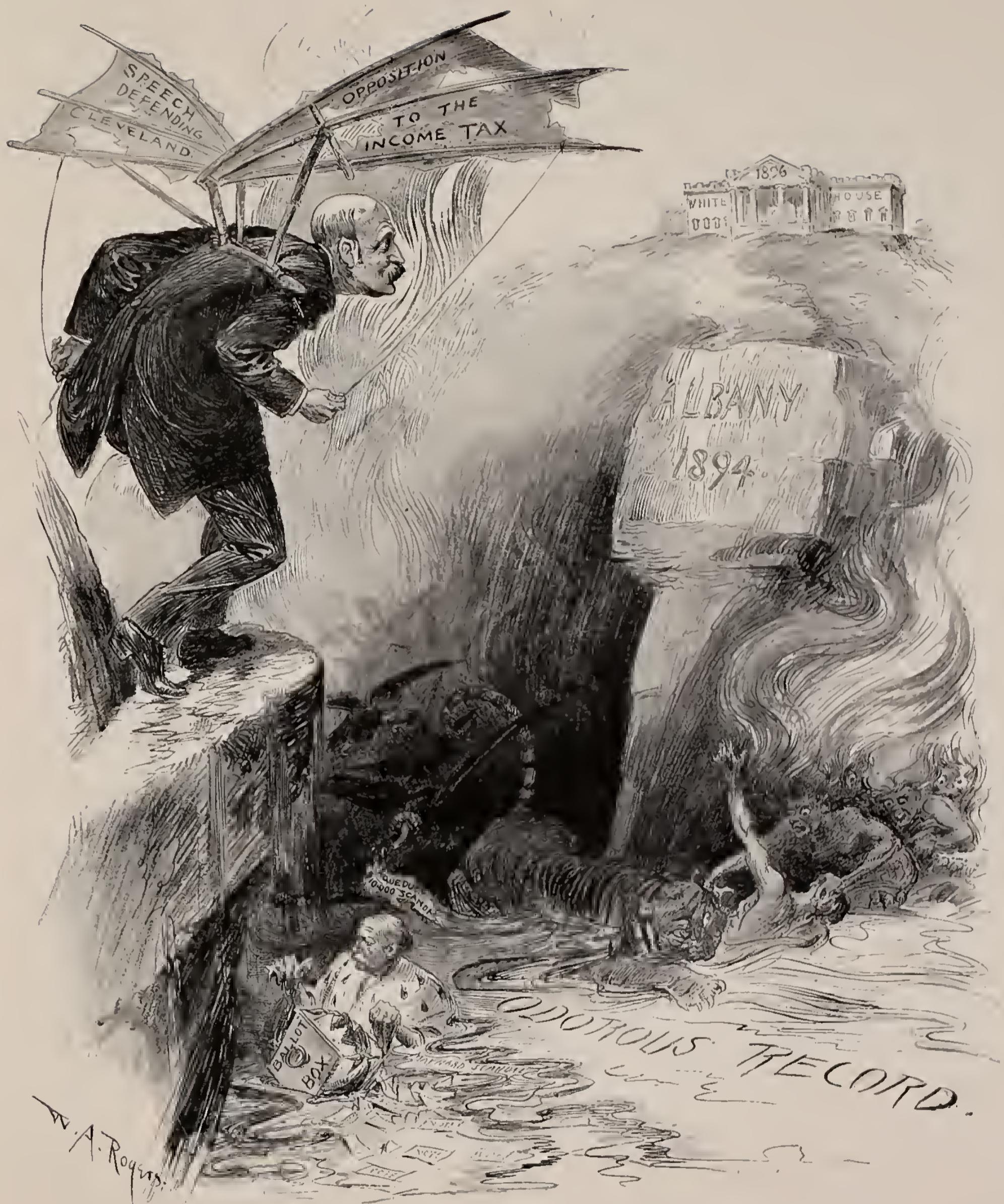
The triumph of MR. GORMAN over the administration and a majority of his own party was completed by the
passage of MR. WILSON's tariff bill with GORMAN amendments. 1894.



GORMAN'S TRIUMPH—A HUMILIATING SPECTACLE.

It was hardly to have been expected that an eleventh-hour repentance would obliterate
MR. HILL's past record from the minds of the people. 1894.





A DESPERATE CHANCE



MR. PLATT was of the opinion that New York, having rid herself of one Boss,
was in need of another. 1894.





MORE WORK FOR VICTORIOUS REFORM.

ANOTHER BOSS COME TO TOWN.

A good many obnoxious politicians were dropped during the year 1894.





CHRISTMAS IN POLITICS.

A FEW THINGS THE PEOPLE WOULDN'T HAVE.

Mr. Hill, after his disastrous experience at the polls, as a candidate for governor,
concluded to make his peace with the administration. 1895.





THE LATEST THING IN CUCKOOS.

WHITE HOUSE, JANUARY 3, 1895.



T.A.R.



The City of New York had escaped from the clutches of Tammany, but trouble from another source loomed up in the future. 1895.

The Bipartisan Bosses.



He Likes the Fat and
I Like the Lean
If there's any thing left
the other gets to see!



A BIPARTISAN SITUATION.
FATHER KNICKERBOCKER'S DILEMMA.



Nothing came of the President's endeavor to have Congress come to the
rescue of the Treasury. 1895.



HOPELESSLY BLOCKED—THE GREAT FROST OF 1895.

The record of the 53d Congress was not inspiring and its demise was not
generally regretted. 1895.





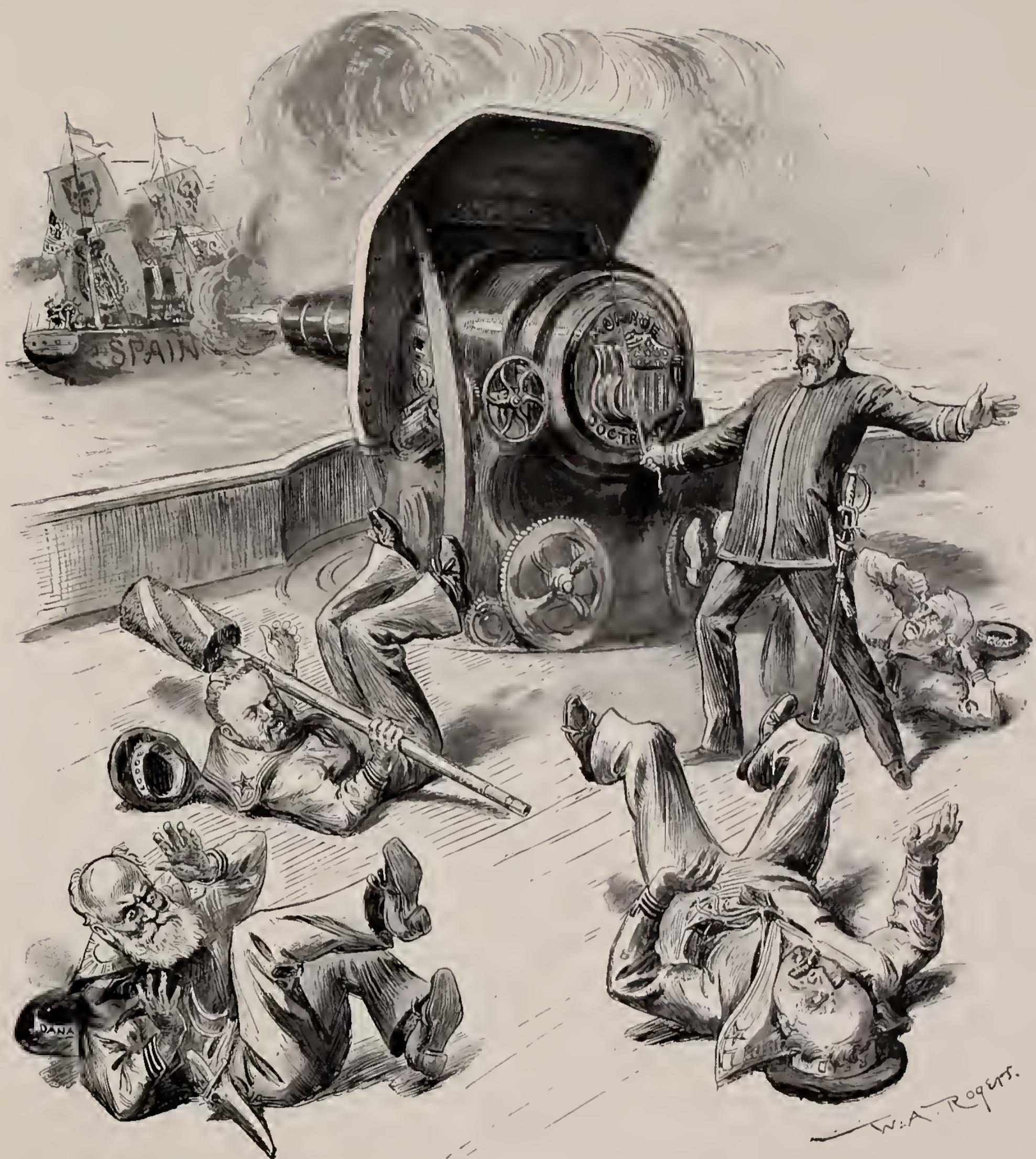
READING THE WILL.

A FEW LEGACIES LEFT BY THE DEFUNCT CONGRESS.



SECRETARY GRESHAM showed the Jingoes that no supine spirit ruled the administration when prompt action in foreign affairs was necessary. 1895.





GRESHAM FIRES BACK.
EFFECT OF THE WINDAGE ON THE JINGOES.



The supposed position of the farmer and the laborer in supporting the wild theories on finance of a certain set of demagogues was considered dangerous. 1895.



POST-HISTORIC COIN *
(THAT NEVER WILL BE PICKED UP
IN COLORADO)



DANGEROUS BUSINESS.

The administration took a strong position in favor of sound money. 1895.





W.A. Rogers.

THE GOLD CURE.

THE ONLY ONE FOR A FINANCIAL SPREE.



The advocates of fiat money were busy once more, tempting the farmer to
exchange something for nothing. 1895.



R.A.R.



AN OLD GAME RENAMED.

IT WAS GREENBACKS; IT IS NOW SILVER; AND ALWAYS FIAT MONEY.

It was only the gold reserve that prevented the silver advocates from receiving a well-deserved object lesson on the real value of the silver dollar. 1895.





THE DEAD-HORSE PARTY.

UNCLE SAM. "To hear them boys talk, you'd think it was their nag was doin' the work."



July 4th found the country in a far more prosperous condition than prevailed
the year before. 1895.



THE GLORIOUS FOURTH.



America's "Infant Industries" were thriving quite well without
government aid. 1895.



A CALAMITY-HOWLER WHO WILL NOT BE COMFORTED.

NURSE REED. "Oh, Sir, he is a Skelington alongside of what he'd 'a' been if the McKinley Cow had lived."

MR. PLATT seemed to think it good politics to hold out hopes to MR. MORTON
of a nomination to the Presidency. 1895.





ONLY A BAIT.

T. C. P. "If this don't fetch trade, then I don't understand the hucksterin' business."



MR. WOLCOTT's advice to his fellow silver agitators to talk less passed unheeded. 1895.





TIME TO SHUT UP.

WOLCOTT. "There has been too much talk about Silver."

COL. WARING continued to clean the streets of New York in spite of all opposition. 1895.





WASTING SPITE ON WARING.
HE WON'T STOP CLEANING THE STREETS.



The Good Government Clubs held aloof from the other forces arrayed
against Tammany. 1895.



Sir Richard at 'ome



FATHER KNICKERBOCKER'S PERIL.

CONSCIENTIOUS LITTLE GOO GOO. "No; I can't help save you Papa, there's some naughty boys on that rope!"

At least three Democratic senators found themselves out of touch with the people. 1895.





HIGH AND DRY—THE CHANNEL HAS CHANGED.

John Bull discovered that he had a "Monroe doctrine" of his own. 1896.



HOTEL INTERNATIONAL



NOW WILLIAM PUTS HIS FOOT IN IT.

JONATHAN. "Brother Bull seems to be a trifle techy about hevin' *his* map spiled, as well as I be."



The name of MONROE was used to conjure with, in small political ambitions, much to
the disgust of patriotic people.

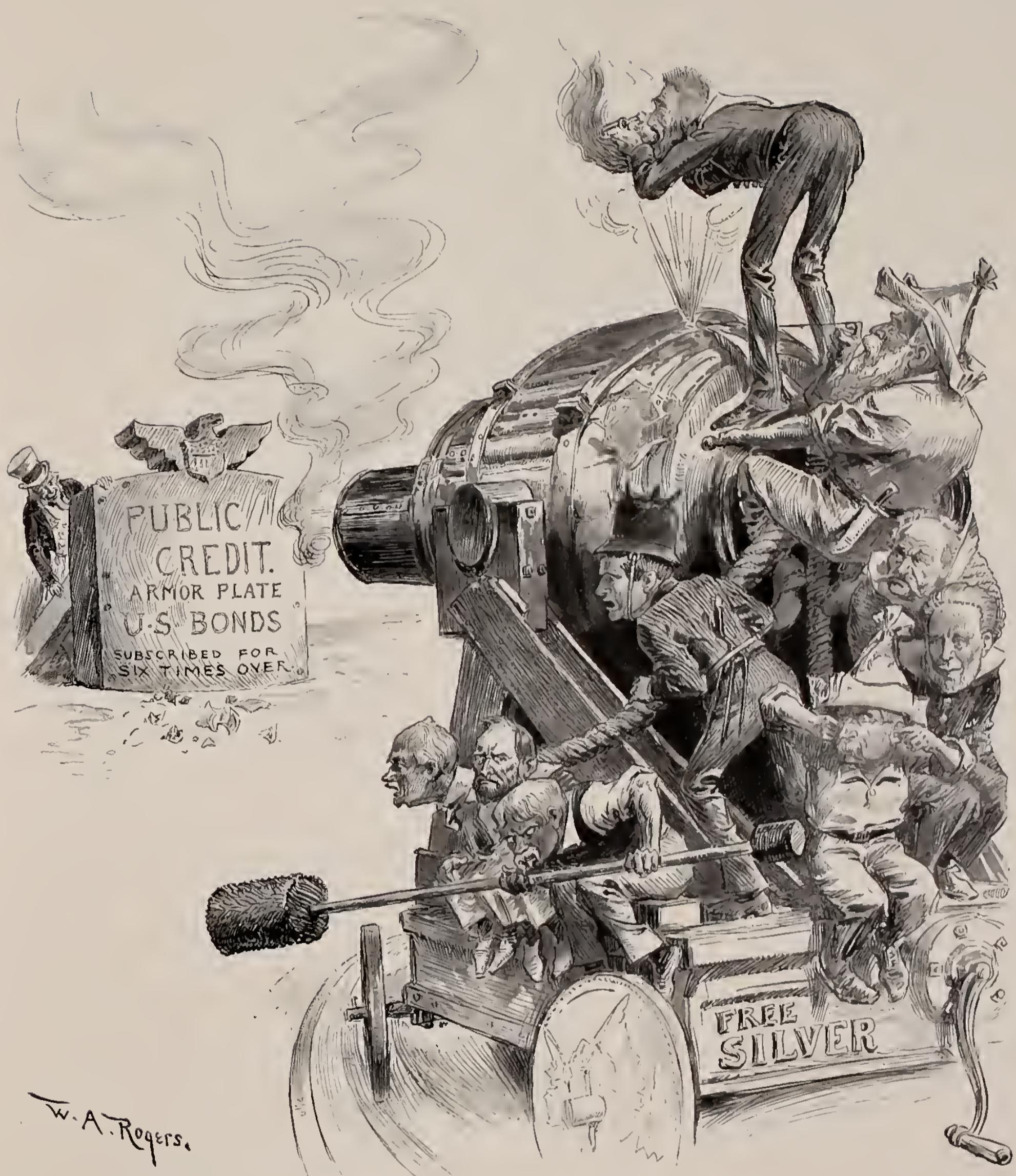


NO PLACE TO PLAY POLITICS.

UNCLE SAM. "Come down from there, you pesky little critter!"

In spite of the agitation for free silver the public credit was upheld by a great
subscription to the issue of United States bonds. 1896.





THE SHOT THAT FAILED.



Outbursts of the Jingo spirit were particularly ill timed with many burning domestic questions remaining unsettled. 1896.



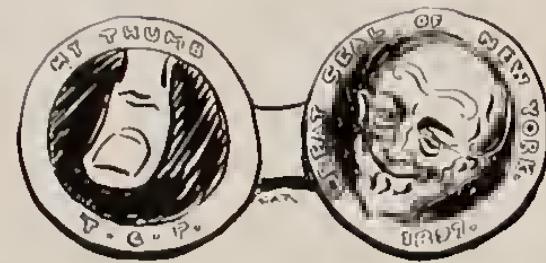


GOING TO CLEAN UP THE EARTH.

A GOOD DEAL BEFORE THEM, AND CONSIDERABLE BEHIND THEM.



Mr. PLATT's power over the Republican machine became more despotic than ever. 1896.





A FEW POINTERS FROM AN EXPERT.

PLATT'S NEW SUNDAY-SCHOOL CLASS.



Not a word came from MR. MCKINLEY to reassure the friends of Sound Money. 1896.



TOO BUSY TO TALK.



After dallying for some time with the free silver idea, the Republican Party declared for its lifelong principle of sound money.





THE POPULISTS' TRAP.



MR. WHITNEY of New York and MR. RUSSELL of Massachusetts made a gallant, but futile, effort to rescue the Democratic Party from the Populists. 1896.





THE RIVAL FOURTH-OF-JULY CELEBRATIONS.

The chief sufferers from a cheap dollar evidently would be the Savings Bank's depositors, workers for fixed wages, pensioners, and those dependent on life insurance. 1896.





SOME TYPICAL GOLD BUGS.



Mr. McKinley, who it had been feared, was none too sound on finance, made one or two ringing speeches for the gold standard. 1896.



FARMER McKinley takes off his coat.

There were many elements behind MR. BRYAN to cause distrust beside the free silver craze. 1896.

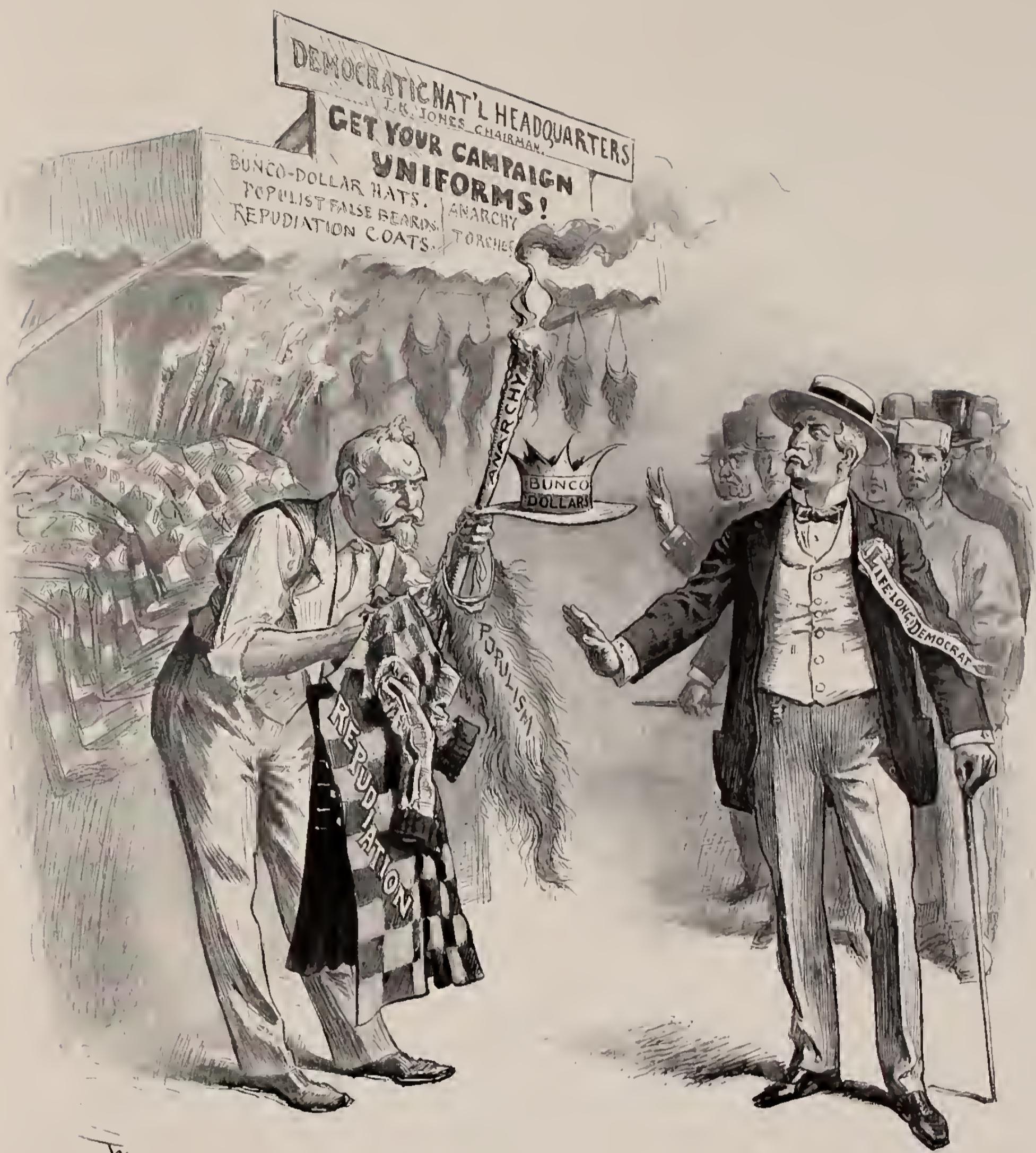




THE REAL CANDIDATE

Many life-long Democrats, disgusted with the Chicago platform, declared their intention
to vote the Republican ticket. 1896.





NOT FOR THEM.



The purchasing power of a silver dollar, under free coinage, would evidently be determined by its intrinsic value. 1896.



THE SILVER KINGS' MILLENNIUM.

WHEN YOUR WAGES WILL BUY JUST HALF WHAT THEY BUY NOW.

It seemed apparent that Labor would be the chief loser by the adoption of a cheap standard dollar. 1896.





A MIGHTY RISKY EXPERIMENT.

BRYAN TO WORKINGMAN. "Now, my good man, I propose to cut your dollar in two without hurting you a particle."

MR. MCKINLEY'S record as a young soldier during the late war made him many friends.
MR. BRYAN was occupied at home during that period. 1896.



IN 1861
WILLIAM MC KINLEY
WAS UPHOLDING HIS
COUNTRY'S HONOR,—
AND HE'S DOING
IT YET!



IN 1861
THIS IS WHAT
WILLIAM J. BRYAN
WAS DOING,—
AND HE'S DOING
IT YET!

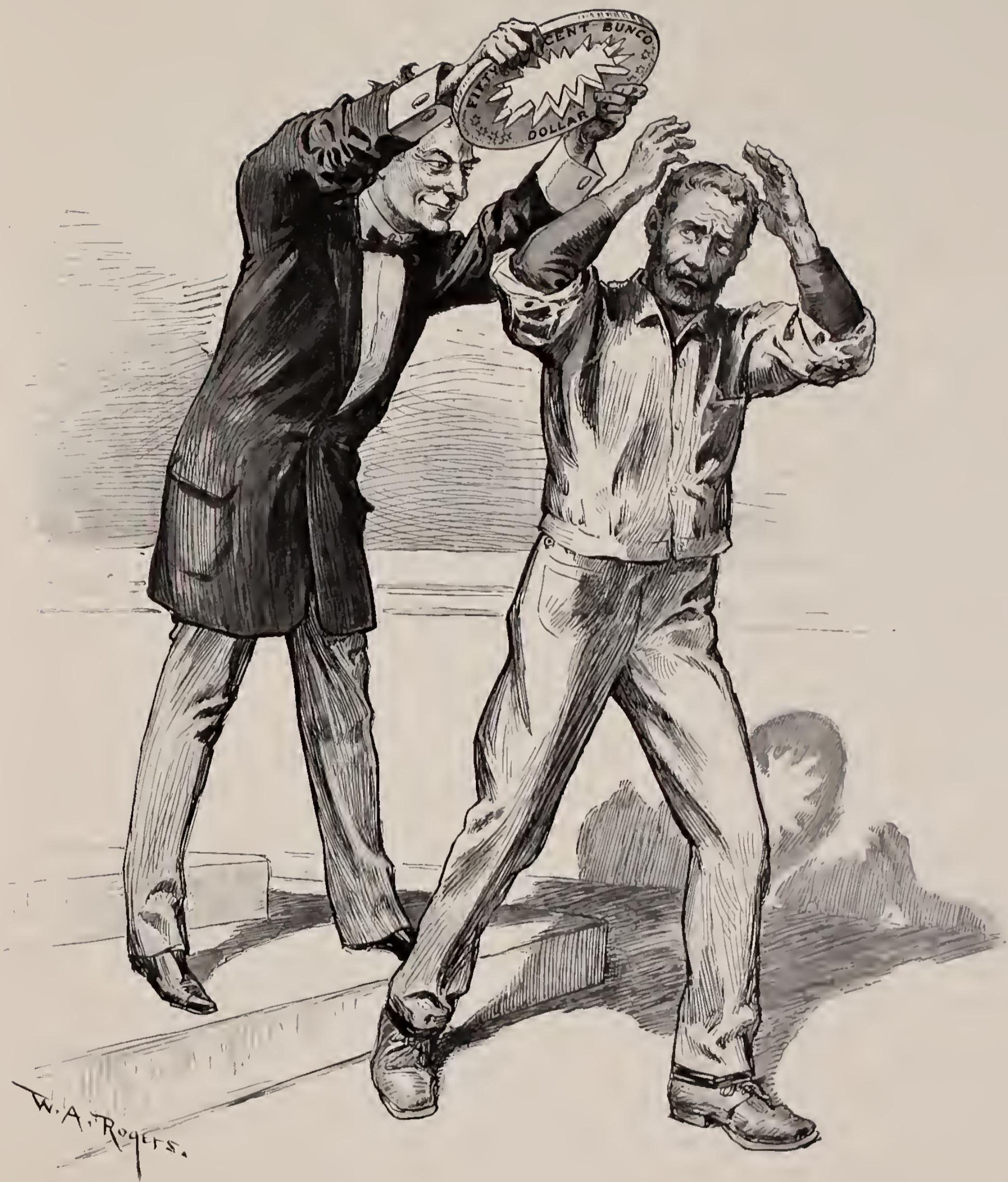


W. A. Rogers.

THE DEADLY PARALLEL.

As the campaign progressed Labor took less kindly to the prospect of a fifty-cent dollar. 1896.





NEITHER SHALL YOU PRESS DOWN UPON THE BROW OF LABOR THIS CROWN.

In "the good old free-coinage days," when MR. BRYAN was a boy, "Shinplasters," (paper money in denominations from three to fifty cents) postage and revenue stamps formed the only money in general circulation. 1896.



POSTAGE STAMPS
WERE MONEY THEN.



BEFORE "THE CRIME OF '73."

THIS IS THE ONLY KIND OF MONEY LITTLE WILLIE BRYAN EVER SAW IN "THE GOOD OLD FREE-COINAGE DAYS."

The support of MR. TILLMAN, GOV. ALTGELD, MR. DEBS and other restless spirits cost MR. BRYAN
many votes. 1896.





ON A POPULISTIC BASIS.
A FORECAST OF THE CONSEQUENCE OF A POPOCRATIC VICTORY TO THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES.



Mexico's experience with free silver made a good object lesson in favor of sound money. 1896.

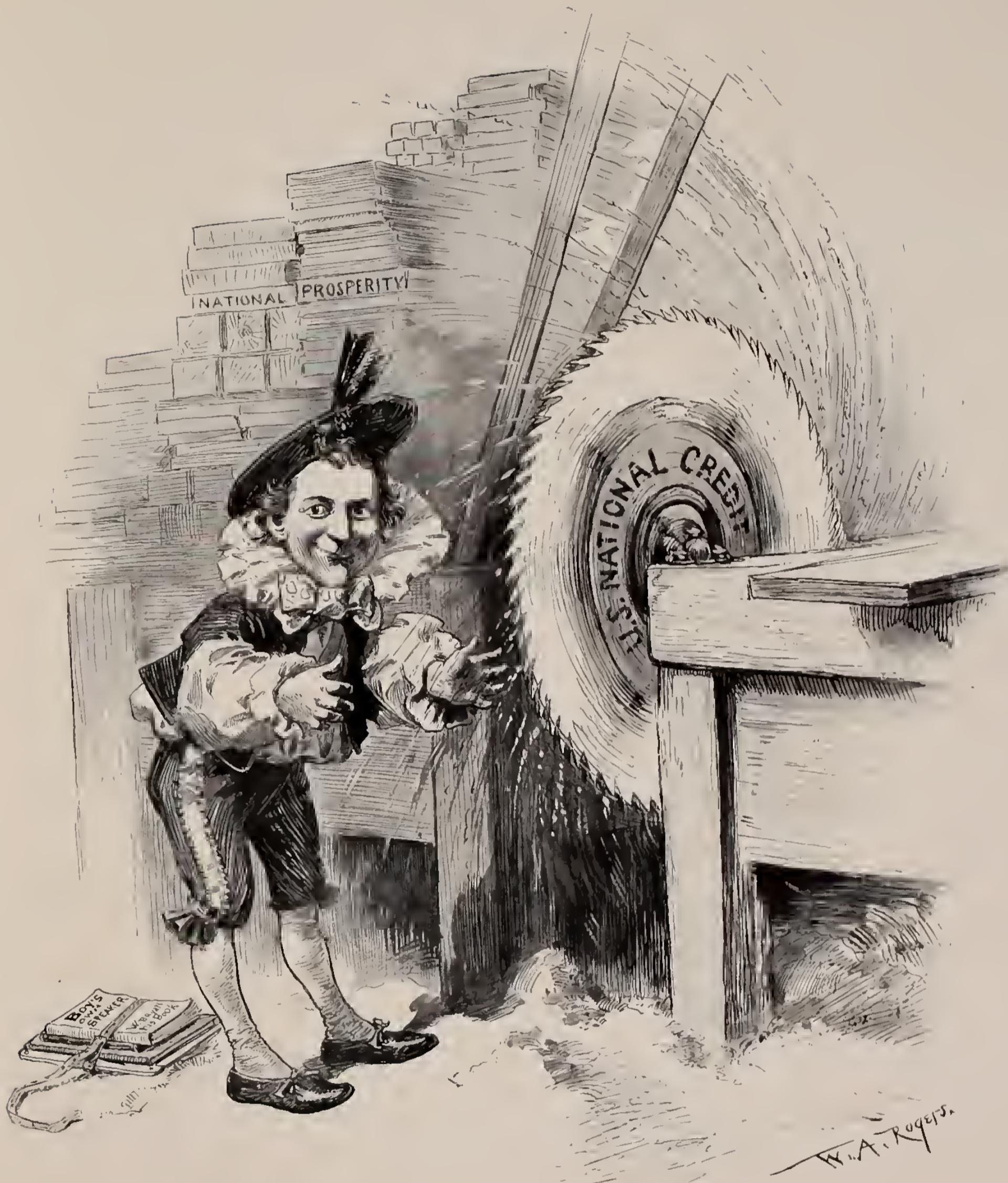


THE RASHNESS OF YOUTH.

LITTLE WILLIE. "He couldn't do that to two big men like me and you, Uncle Sam. Let's tackle him!"

The more MR. BRYAN talked on Finance, the less dangerous he appeared to be to anyone
but himself. 1896.





MONKEYING WITH A "BUZZ-SAW."

LITTLE WILLIE. "I guess I'll stop it."



One of Mr. BRYAN's favorite arguments was based on the theory that the price of wheat
followed that of silver. 1896.



WILLIE IN WONDERLAND.

WHEAT JUMPS UP AND SILVER DOWN. CAN THIS BE THE ENEMIES' COUNTRY?

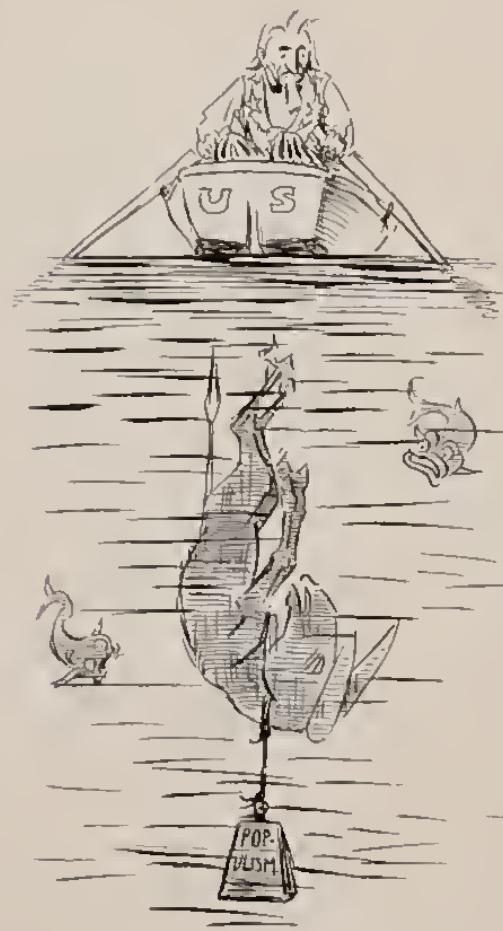
The oratory of MR. BRYAN had proved one of the great disappointments of the Campaign. 1896.





ABOUT RUN DOWN.

MR. MCKINLEY was elected by the Republicans aided by the Sound Money Democrats. 1896.





THE FLAG IS STILL THERE.



Business men all over the country were disgusted by the senseless Jingo vaporings
in the Senate. 1897.



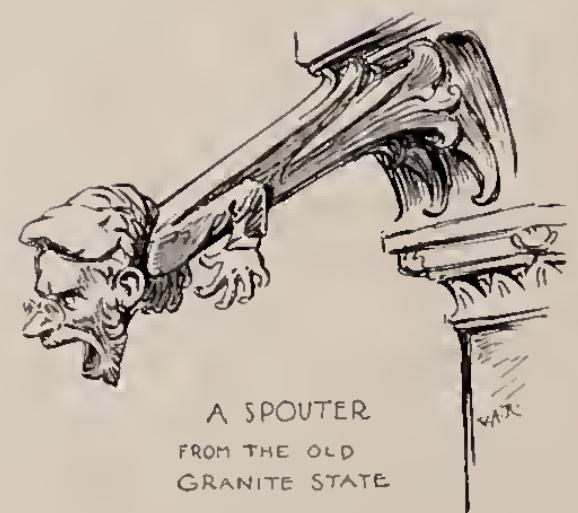


GETTING MONOTONOUS.

"EVERY TIME I GET HIM STARTED THAT FOOL BAND STARTS UP."



The idea of an Arbitration Treaty with England almost threw the Jingoes into hysterics. 1897.





CHAIN UP THE DOGS OF WAR!
BUT THEN HOW IS THE JINGO CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCE TO GO ON?

It was not so apparent then as since that Turkey was the seventh power of Europe. 1897.





THE SEVENTH POWER OF EUROPE.

The usual selfish scramble took place during the preparation of a new Tariff Bill. 1897.

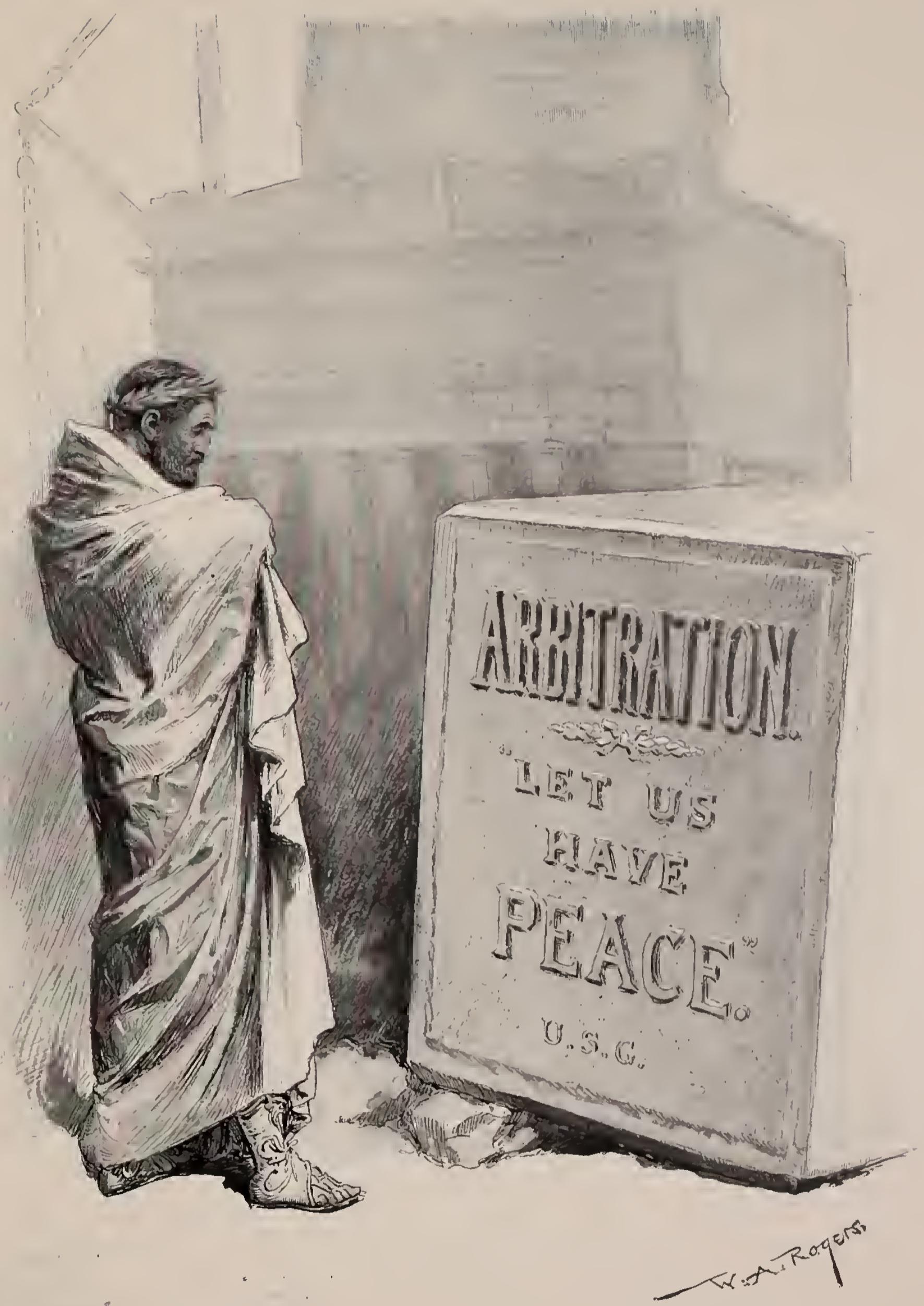




THERE ARE OTHERS!
UNCLE SAM THOUGHT HIS AXE WAS TO BE GROUND!

The Arbitration Treaty was rejected by the Senate at about the time of the dedication of
GENERAL GRANT'S tomb.





IN DANGER OF REJECTION.
THE STONE THAT GRANT HIMSELF SELECTED.



HANGING BY A THREAD.

The Turk, as the victor in the war with Greece, naturally expected to carry off the spoils. 1897.





THE TURK AND THE CHRISTIANS.

THE LOSER ALWAYS LOSES BUT THE WINNER DOES NOT ALWAYS WIN.

The Jubilee in England was scarcely over when news came of an alarming uprising
in India. 1897.



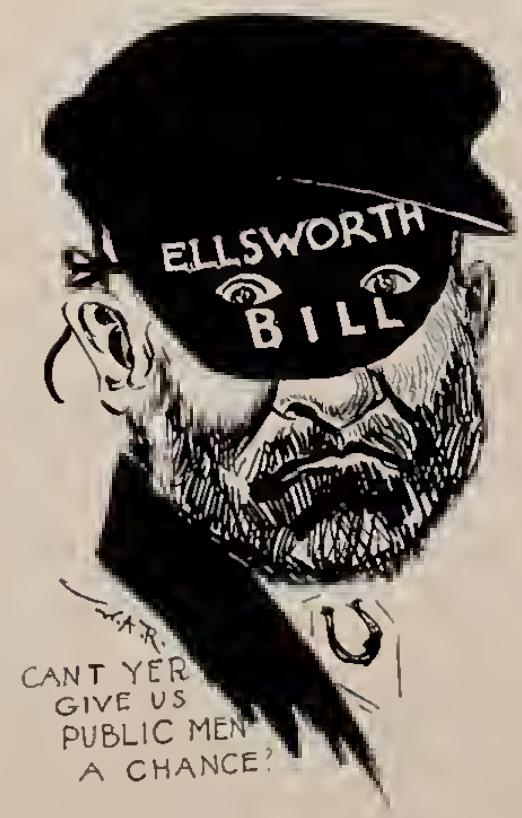
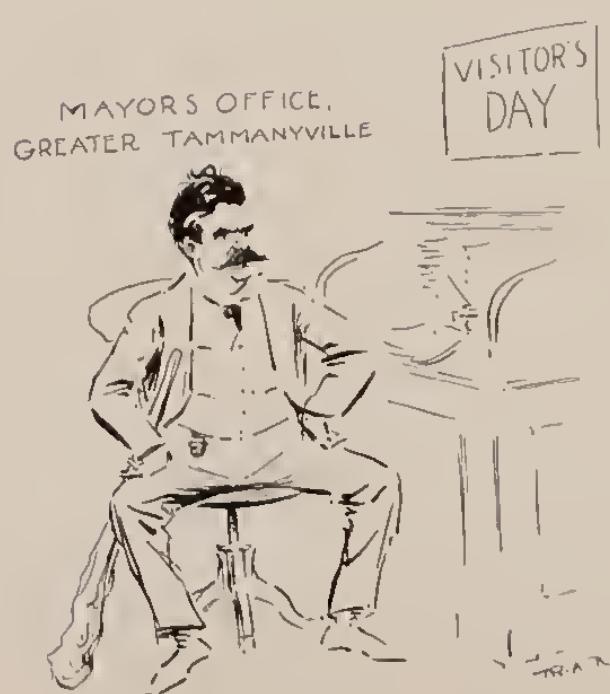


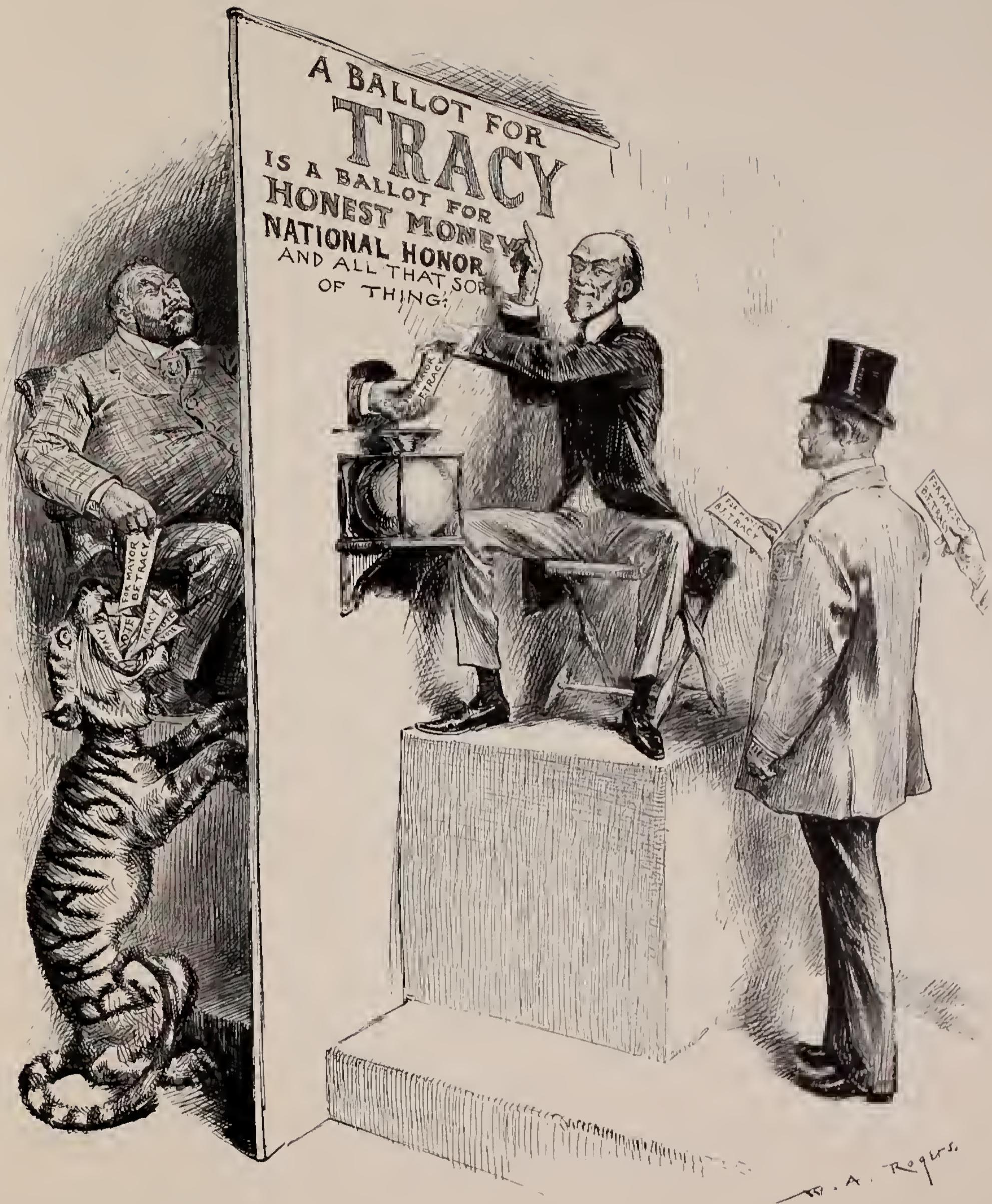
AFTER THE JUBILEE.



Attacked
— Front and Rear

GENERAL TRACY's defeat for Mayor of Greater New York was a foregone conclusion. By remaining in the race he assured Tammany's victory. 1897.





"YOU CAN FOOL SOME OF THE PEOPLE ALL THE TIME."

The Pension Frauds had become so flagrant that civilians and old soldiers alike called
for an investigation of the Pension list 1898.





OUR STANDING ARMY OF FRAUD.
EVEN OVERBURDENED EUROPE CAN AFFORD TO LAUGH AT US.



An article in *Harper's Weekly* drew attention to the intolerable condition of municipal affairs in Chicago. 1898.





CHICAGO'S EYES "WIDE OPEN."

The Beneficiaries of the tremendous frauds in our Pension list were terribly concerned lest recent
exposures might injure the disabled veteran. 1898.





"DON'T SHOOT! YOU MIGHT HIT THE OLD VETERAN."



In dealing with the disaster to the "Maine" the American people did precisely what the teachings of WASHINGTON declared most worthy of them. 1898.





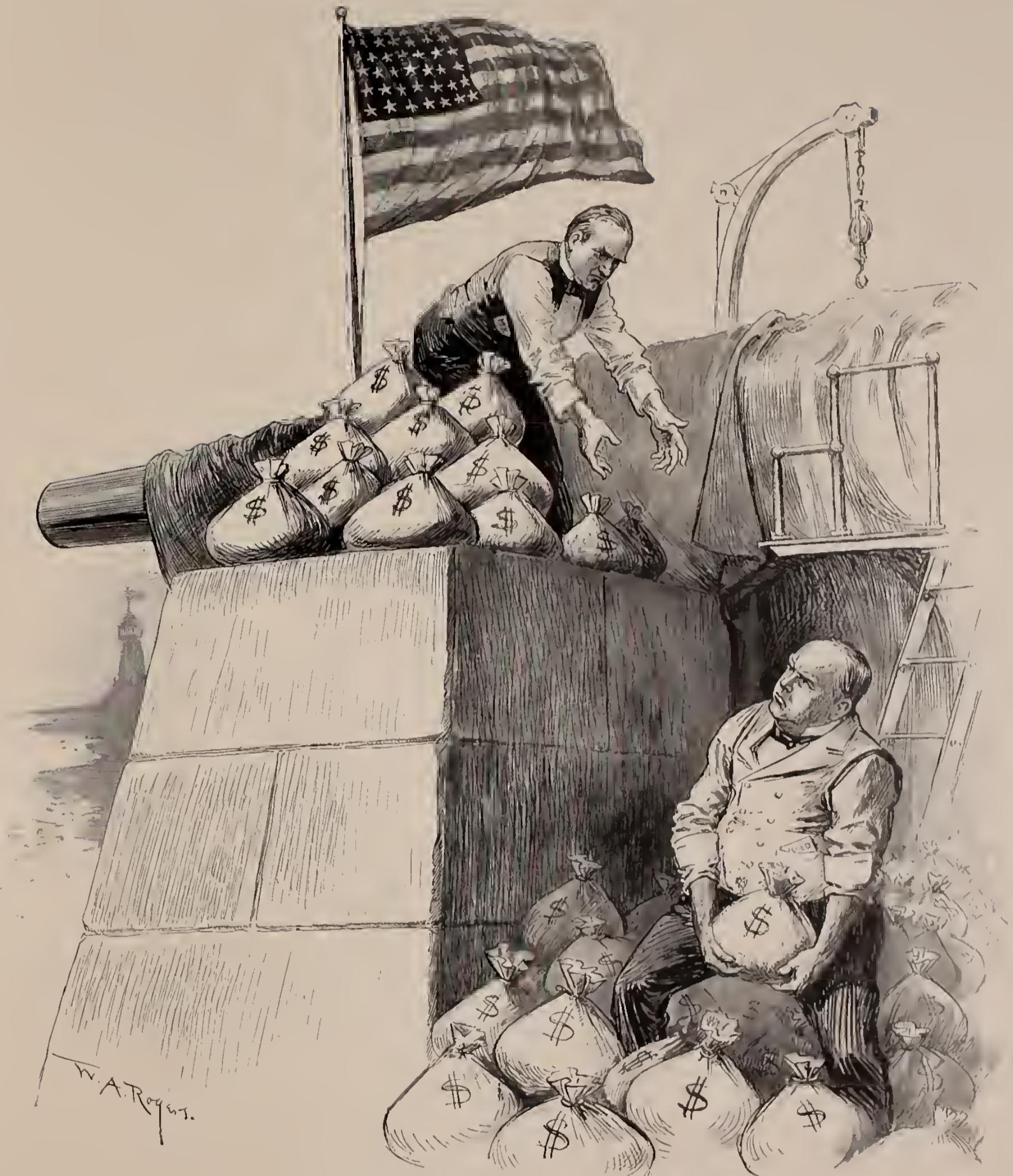
AN EXAMPLE TO ALL NATIONS.

"It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and at no distant period a great Nation, to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a People always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence."—GEORGE WASHINGTON.



While waiting patiently for the official report on the sinking of the "Maine," Congress and the Executive were making ready for emergencies. 1898.





NOT ONE CENT FOR BUNKUM—FIFTY MILLIONS FOR DEFENCE.



A Weyler Victory



Three Types of

Good Americans.

Congress empowered the President to use the army and navy if necessary to establish peace and a free Government on the Island of Cuba. 1898.

Shafter in his great Act
of
Putting The Shot
July 98.





CUBA LIBRE!

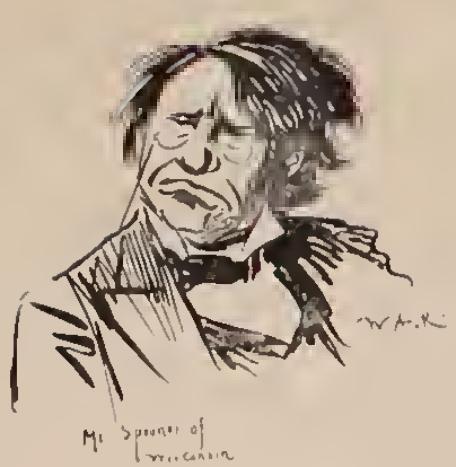


Victory on both sides of the world entailed stupendous responsibilities on the Government.





UNCLE SAM'S NEW CLASS IN THE ART OF SELF-GOVERNMENT.



FINIS.

